

REMARKS

Introduction

Claims 1, 3-9, 11, 12, 14-16, 20, 21, 25, 26, 28, and 31 are pending in the instant application. This paper amends claims 1, 5, 8, 9, 12, 16, 28, and 31; does not add new claims; and does not cancel any claims. Claims 1, 12, 16, 20, 28, and 31 are the independent claims of the application. The amendments are fully supported by the original specification and no new matter has been added.

In the Office Action dated June 10, 2009, the Examiner (1) allowed claims 21, 22, 25, and 26, and (2) rejected claims 1, 3-9, 11, 12, 14-16, 28, and 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as failing to comply with the enablement requirement.

Applicants respectfully respond to the Office Action.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants and the undersigned attorney gratefully acknowledge the notification of allowance of claims 20, 21, 25, and 26.

Section 112 Rejections

The Examiner based the section 112 (enablement) rejections on the assertion that each of the independent claims 1, 12, 16, 28, and 31 recited two disclosed schemes for adjusting the LLRs of the enhancement data stream, while the specification does not disclose the combination of the two schemes. In order to advance prosecution of the application, independent claims 1, 12, 16, 28, and 31 are amended to delete steps of one of the schemes. In the case of independent claims 1, 12, and 16, the first scheme is recited among other limitations; in independent claims 28 and 31 (as well as the allowed independent claim 20), the second scheme is recited among other limitations. Applicants submit that the amendments obviate the section 112 rejections, at least for the above reasons.

Applicants further note that the Examiner had previously found allowable the subject matter of each of the now-cancelled claims 33 and 34, which correspond to the two adjustment schemes.

Dependent claims should be patentable together with their respective base and intervening claims (if any).

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that all pending claims in the application are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested. Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

No fee is due for entry of this paper. If it is determined that additional fees are in fact due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s) or credit any overpayment(s) to Deposit Account No. 17-0026. If necessary, Applicants request, under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a), to extend the period for filing a reply in the above-identified application and to charge the fees for a large entity under 37 CFR 1.17(a).

Respectfully submitted,

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